

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
SECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

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POST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN STB DOCKET NO. AB-6 (Sub-No. 450X)

September 7, 2007

ABANDONMENT TYPE

The time for comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) has expired in this:

(X) Notice of Exemption () Petition for Exemption () Regulated Abandonment

() **NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

(X) **NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

SEA served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on August 20, 2007 for public review and comment, hi the EA, SEA recommended two (2) environmental conditions and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment. One comment was received during the comment period. That comment is addressed below.

Comments on the EA

The National Geodetic Survey (NGS) commented that no geodetic station markers were found within the area of the proposed abandonment (see attachment). Therefore, no further consultation is required regarding this comment and SEA is not recommending any modifications to the EA.

Modifications to the EA

Not applicable.

Conclusions


The EA comment period has ended. SEA received one new comment from the NGS that requires no further consultation. However, SEA recommends that the following previously recommended conditions be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority:

1. To ensure appropriate consideration of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' (MDNR) comments regarding stormwater management issues and the possible need for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, and the concern for potential contamination on the right-of-way, the BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) shall consult with MDNR prior to commencement of

any salvage activities, or prior to consummation of the abandonment, if the rail line has already been completely salvaged, as BNSF indicates.

2. BNSF shall retain its interest in and take no further steps to alter the historic integrity of all sites, buildings, and structures within the project right-of-way that are eligible for listing or listed in the National Register of Historic Places until the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. § 470f, has been completed. BNSF shall report back to the Section of Environmental Analysis regarding any consultations with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation Office and any other Section 106 consulting parties. BNSF may not file its consummation notice or initiate any salvage activities related to abandonment until the Section 106 process has been completed and the Surface Transportation Board has removed this condition.

If the above conditions are imposed, SEA believes that the proposed action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

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08/30/2007 12:09 PM

To woodd@stb.dot.gov

cc Surface Transportation Board <sea@stb.dot.gov>, National
Society of Professional Surveyors
<Dawn.James@acsm.net>, Gilbert Mitchell

bcc

Subject [Fwd: [Fwd: NGS Response, STB Docket AB-06 (SUB NO.
450X)]]

Handwritten: Diana
HEI-3140

Thank you for sharing your railroad abandonment environmental report for
Kearney, Clay County, Missouri.

Approximately 00 geodetic survey marks may be located in the area
described.

If marks will be disturbed by the abandonment, [THE RAILROAD} shall
consult with the National Geodetic Survey (NGS), and notify NGS at least
90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb, or
destroy any geodetic station marks.

These marks are described on the attached file. Additional advice is
provided at <http://geodesy.noaa.gov/marks/railroads/>

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No Stations Found.